

ENTERTAINMENT / A2-1
Fisherman's son is new Pinoy Pop Superstar

NEWS / A2
Japan seeks role in gov't-MILF peace negotiations

WORLD / A21
Beatles lose court battle over Apple trademark

METRO / A19
Water board can't stop use of deep wells in Las Piñas, Parañaque, Muntinlupa

Pharmacists to follow docs, nurses in medical exodus

By Christian V. Esguerra

FILIPINO DOCTORS AND NURSES ARE LEAVING, lured by better pay and working conditions abroad. Pretty soon, the Philippines may also begin losing its relatively small number of pharmacists.

Health experts warn of the looming exodus of the country's pharmacists who number no more than 4,000 today.

PHARMACISTS/A7

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, May 10, 2006 ★★ 5 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 151 P18 website: www.inq7.net

Summer's over, here come the rains–Pagasa

By Blanche S. Rivera

WHILE NOT QUITE A storm, tropical depression "Caloy" which blew into the Philippines yesterday effectively ended an unusually scorching summer.

However, this is not yet [illegible]

SUMMER/A2



Saudi oil supply assured

GMA flying home with 138 freed Filipinos

By Fe Zamora

JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA—President Macapagal-Arroyo said Monday that Saudi Arabia had pledged to supply the Philippines with oil in case of supply disruptions and that King Abdullah had granted a mass pardon to 138 Filipino lawbreakers in the oil-rich kingdom.

In addition, Saudi police announced they were releasing eight other Filipinos held in jails in Jeddah.

"The oil minister of Saudi Arabia has conveyed his assurances to me that in the unlikely event of a disruption in the Philippine oil supply, Saudi Arabia is prepared to make up for the shortage," Ms Arroyo said at the Meridien Hotel after talks with Saudi officials.

The Philippines in 2004 imported 37 million barrels of crude oil from Saudi Arabia, accounting for more than 50 percent of the country's total importation of 73 million barrels that year.

Malacañang had said Ms Arroyo's four-day state visit to the kingdom was a mission for the "three O's," a reference to the oil problem, the welfare of overseas Filipino workers, and the long-standing Philippine request for observer status in the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Observer status in the OIC is deemed vital to the country's efforts to resolve the decades-old Muslim separatist problem in Mindanao.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye described the mass pardon for Filipinos given by Saudi King Abdullah was the "first in the history of Saudi Arabia."

"We are [illegible] regalo sa [illegible] to Phil-

SAUDI/A7



RIYADH Gov. Prince Salman presents to President Macapagal-Arroyo a book depicting the history of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Behind Ms Arroyo is Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo.

Envoy tells how 6 RP seamen survived

By Mikko Dizon

HUGE AND VIOLENT WAVES spelled the difference between survival and uncertainty for the Filipino seamen of the Greek-owned motor vessel Alexandros T that sank in South African waters last week.

The 290-meter bulk carrier, built in 1988 and with a gross tonnage of 91,164, was headed from Brazil to China with a load of steel when it began taking on water in stormy seas in the evening of May 3 about 680 km east of Port Elizabeth.

Of the 33 crew members, only seven were rescued—six Filipinos and a Romanian. The other 26 crewmen, including 18 Filipinos, were declared missing.

Rescue operations have been suspended by the South African authorities after days of futile search. Authorities said that the mission would resume if they received fresh information about the missing crew members.

The Filipino survivors were identified as Allan Grasil, 4th engineer; Alex Miranda, boatswain; Leo Alemania and Elmer Pasilan, both deckboys; Rosendo Vergara, deck cadet, and Stevie Morales, engine boy.

One of the Filipinos rescued recalled that he was with seven other Filipinos who were preparing to evacuate the sinking ship, according to Philippine Ambassador to Pretoria Virgilio Reyes Jr.

"In a split second, a huge wave coming from nowhere slammed into the ship, throwing all of them into the cold water," Reyes said in a statement released by the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

"They all swam to a life raft, which was about 15 meters away," Reyes said. The waves lit up the sky, which enabled the seamen to make their way toward the life raft.

Wearing their life jackets, all eight held each other tightly, the unidentified survivor said. But again, violent waves struck and three of them were separated from the group.

Of the three, one was able to hold on to another life raft. "He was the last survivor to be recovered," the DFA said.

This particular survivor was rescued at 11 a.m. on May 4, a South African radio report said. He was not injured, and had been relatively comfortable overnight in the life raft which was "designed to sustain people," the report said.

ENVOY/A6

Chavit vows to leave GMA if Erap walks

By Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO only needs to strike a deal with deposed leader Joseph Estrada for Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson to turn his back on her.

Singson said over dinner at the Inquirer office on Monday that he would go against Ms Arroyo if Estrada were acquitted by the Sandiganbayan of the P4-billion plunder charge leveled against him after his ouster in 2001.

"The case is so strong. The only way he can be acquitted is if there's a deal," the 64-year-old

CHAVIT/A6



THRILLED Filipino workers reach out to shake the President's hand.

Remember your roots, Satur tells ex-comrade Mike D

By Michael Lim Ubac

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO's chief of staff should look back at his past and steer clear of National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, according to militant party-list lawmaker Satur Ocampo.

"Remember your roots," Ocampo said yesterday in taking a swipe at Michael Defensor, who had earlier offered to help him and the rest of the "Batasan 5" in their legal defense, on condition that they renounced the armed struggle being waged by the Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed wing, the New People's Army.

Ocampo, senior representative of Bayan Muna and House deputy minority leader, said Defensor's call was "a mere echo" of the statements of the "anti-Left, anti-Chinese" [illegible] Gonzales.

He said Defensor should stay away from Gonzales, "who displays his ignorance of the law by inventing the doctrine that one is presumed innocent until proven guilty."

"What's wrong with that government is that it lets loose legal nincompoops in the Inter-Agency Legal Action Group, led by the biggest legal ignoramus Bert Gonzales, to manufacture a rebellion case against us," Ocampo said.

But Defensor—who in the 1980s was an active member of the militant youth group Kabataang Makabayan (KM), along with the likes of Nathaniel Santiago, now secretary general of Bayan Muna—said: "In Europe, the communists, socialists and labor have taken the path of parliamentary struggle to pursue their ideology without the armed component. I think the superiority of their arguments should be their weapon, and not guns and bombs."

Defensor also said the commu-

REMEMBER/A6



REP. Crispin Beltran

Beltran turns 'hyper' as Batasan 5 drop in for a visit

By DJ Yap

YESTERDAY'S VISIT OF THE "Batasan 5" to their unofficial sixth member, Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran, so pleased him that his blood pressure shot up to 160 over 90.

But otherwise, it was a lively meeting of old friends, no matter that it was held under heavy security in Beltran's hospital room at the Philippine Heart Center in Quezon City.

One topic that stood out in the animated conversation was Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez.

"He's one of the factors that's keeping my blood pressure high. Another one is [President Macapagal] Arroyo," the hypertensive Beltran joked.

The visit to Beltran, 73, was one of the first things that Representatives Satur Ocampo, Joel Virador, Teodoro Casiño, Rafael Mariano and Liza Maza did collectively after they left the protective custody of the House of Representatives on Monday.

Wearing "Free Ka Bel" buttons on their shirts and bearing fruits and a pack of yosi, a native pastry, the Batasan 5 arrived at Room 437 at a little past 2 p.m.

The visitors were warned not to get too close to their colleague because he was taking a type of medication that emitted radiation.

"Free Ka Bel Movement" spokesperson Dennis Maga said Beltran was suffering from a cyst in the right kidney, carotid plaque, which causes blockage in blood flow to the carotid area, and signs of a cardiovascular ailment.

Beltran is being treated with Thallium 201, a drug known to emit radiation, according to his daughter Olivia Lokan.

The medication will determine his heart's "movement," enabling the doctors to determine the cause of his high blood pressure, she said.

The radiation warning did not stop Ocampo and Maza from hugging and kissing their colleague on the cheek.

Dressed in a hospital gown, the

BELTRAN/A8

WEATHER FORECAST

Surging stocks good, but not for majority of Pinoys, says solon

Everyday life

Parking their money

Japan seeks role in gov't, MILF peace negotiations

COTABATO CITY—JAPAN IS SEEKING AN ACtive role in the peace negotiations between the Philippine government and the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

RP, Australia close to inking security pact

KUALA LUMPUR—THE PHILIPpines and Australia will soon sign a security pact

Alleged Abu arrested



Distressed pre-need firm would sell plans

Congress think tank warns on shift to federal system

Luisita tillers to get one title

Prosecutor quits case

Correction


DOHA 2006
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND SEE YOURSELF FLOATING ON AIR
For further information, please contact your nearest Qatar Airways office
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QATAR AIRWAYS القطرية

Envoy tells how 6 Filipino seamen survived

Fear of hypothermia

Maritime conventions

Minimum requirements



JUST SAY NO

BIRTHDAY GIFT IDEAS

Seedlings for Mother Earth



'PWEDE NA'

Saudi oil supply assured

Blood money waived

OFW welfare

'Short-term gimmicks'

Pinoys remain vulnerable

Probe the funds

Pharmacists to follow docs, nurses ...

Starting salaries

Best and brightest

Another year of nursing



Beltran turns 'hyper' during Batasan 5 ...

It ain't over yet —PNP

Remember your ...

Chavit vows to leave ...

Summer's over, here come ...

Pag-asa at gabay tung

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Mapagkakatiwalaan







Matatag at maaasahan

Prudentialife remains a pillar of strength and stability despite the challenges facing the pre-need industry. Last year, the company paid over P1 billion in terms of planholder benefits.

Sa pagsalubong m
may kasama kang

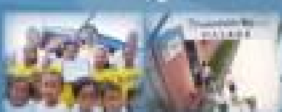
Noon pa man, ka
ang kayo'y p



Paglalakbay at pasasalamat



Sibol ng pangarap, sibol ng PAGASA





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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Opinion



Intermission

EDITORIAL

THE RELEASE, SO TO SPEAK, WAS PRECEDED with fireworks. Before dawn on Monday morning, New People's Army rebels strafed a communications tower of Globe Telecom in Sorsogon.

Setting the record straight

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

(To be continued)

Character

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Back on the economic radar screen

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

Juvenile justice

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Back to the mountains?

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Ear piercing

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

One-dish 'cafeteria'

LETTERS

[illegible]

—CHICO GARCIA,
Dadulx hdl_12@yahoo.com

Passé issues and conjectures about SSS

[illegible]

The way to straighten crooked officials

[illegible]

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Saga of Golden Buddha won't simply fade away

By Delmar Cariño
Baguio City

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS after it was found in a tunnel near a hospital in Baguio City, the Golden Buddha and the controversy it has generated simply refuse to fade away.

[illegible]



THE CONTROVERSIAL "Golden Buddha" now in the custody of a Baguio court has spawned court battles involving the government, a group of treasure hunters and the heirs of its finder, Rogelio Roxas.

[illegible]

Not a setback

[illegible]

Detachable head

[illegible]

At A Glance

[illegible]

Across the NATION

P9,329,297.40

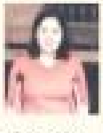
PNP chief confirms 'jueteng' return

By Luigi A. del Puerto

THE CHIEF OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE confirmed the resurgence of the illegal numbers game jueteng and ordered reactivated an anti-gambling task force dissolved early this year.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Isabela gov says PNP war on 'jueteng' farce
- Army probes safety pass issued Sayyaf man
- Mt. Province ideal for wind energy



Opposition to STL grows as police smell 'jueteng'

ROUNDUP

Drivers seek fare hike



6 nabbed for theft

82 scholarships for ex-rebs



1 dies in Quezon mishap

Bicol journalist dies

Albay delegation to China

Isabela gov slams police 'farce' on 'jueteng'





PADACA

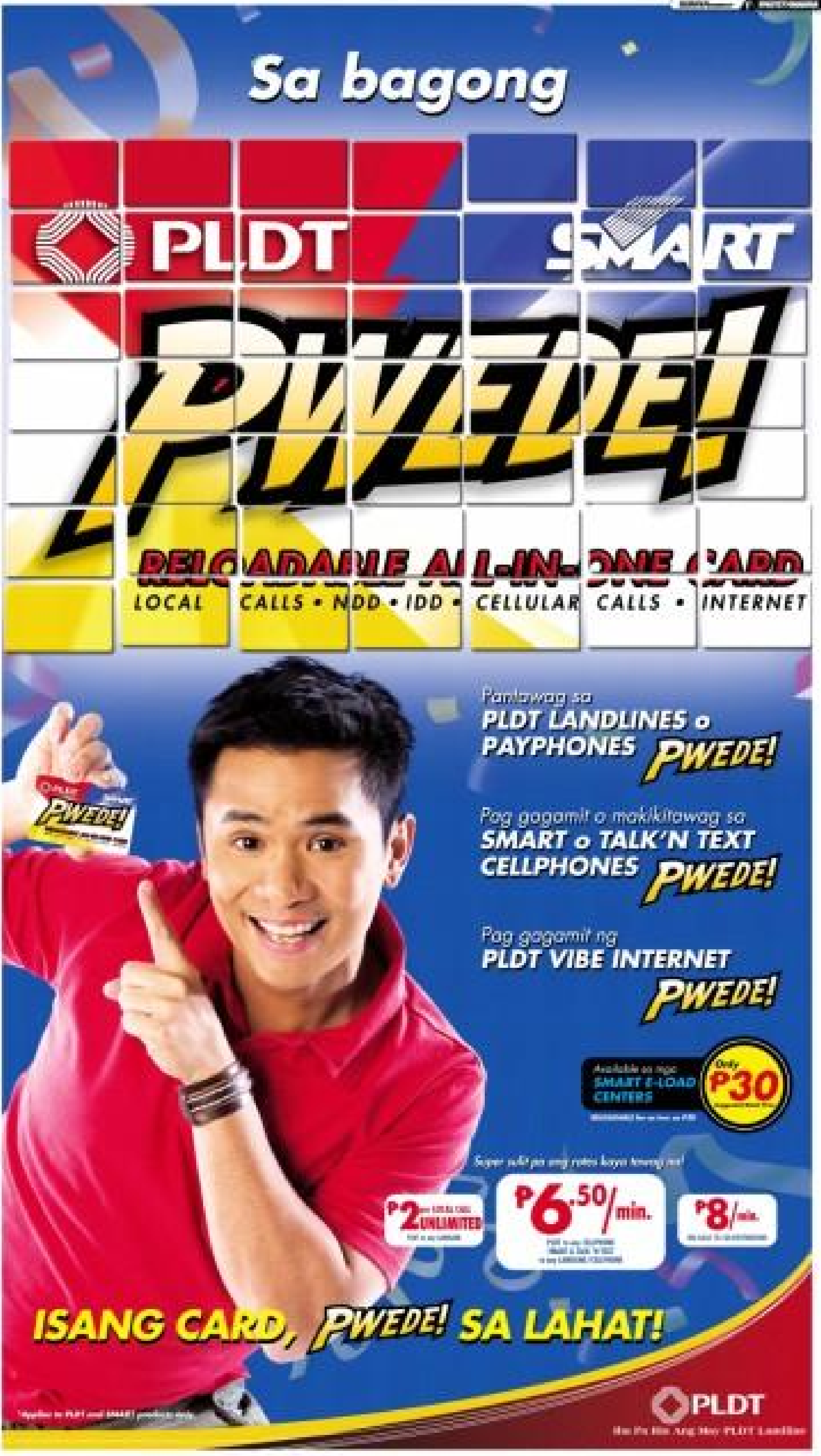
Mt. Province tagged ideal site to generate power through wind



Mayors' boycott won't stop Isabela festival

Reyes fires 2 DENR men in Surigao

Army to probe pass given Sayyaf man



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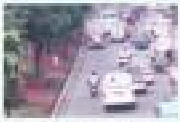
Use of deep wells to stay in 3 Metro Manila cities

Water board says there is no alternative water source



Safety check on dormitories, boardinghouses in U-Belt begins

What's Inside





Taguig honors 2 honest employees

Valuable find

Trust

₱1.3B for roads rehab project



MetroBriefs

Gas station robbed



Moment of truth

₱150,000 reward

Ex-cop nabbed for taking bribes to protect illegal betting

SLEx toll rates to go up on May 15; Skyway spared



Palestinian Authority in danger of collapse, says World Bank

Blair hints at mid-2007 exit



Study: Most newborn deaths happen in first 24 hours in developing world



Two dim dwarf galaxies found around Milky Way



South Africa's ex-deputy president cleared of rape



Beatles lose court battle over Apple trademark

The WORLD

Most Iranian exiles oppose military strike

[illegible]

Major powers fail to break impasse over Iran crisis

NEW YORK—MAJOR POWERS ENDED INTENSIVE TALKS LATE Monday with no agreement on a UN resolution to rein in Iran's controversial nuclear program and were unlikely to have a text ready this week, officials said.

[illegible]

AFP

Moussaoui wants new trial, withdraws his guilty plea

[illegible]

AFP







SPORTS

Editor: Teddyvic S. Melendres



NCR swimmers hit gold

By Marc Anthony Reyes

NAGA CITY (VIA BAYANTEL)—NATIONAL CAPITAL REgion launched its torpedoes on the pool yesterday, bringing down three gold medals highlighted by the record-breaking performance of Dorothy Grace Hong in Day 3 of the Palarong Pambansa at the Metro Naga Sports Complex.

Express tackle Giants sans Ritualo

By Musong R. Castillo





Davao booters prevail





Sportswatch

Gonzales rules BRC Karting

Lapu-lapu City hosts 3-cock special

80 fights at SJC today

Bacolor Gold derby May 11



Archers, SB Cubs champs

Carter leads charge as Nets cool Heat

Suns continue to rise in Phoenix

MIAMI—VINCE CARTER SCORED 27 POINTS TO help the New Jersey Nets withstand a late Miami charge and beat the Heat 100-88 in their NBA second round series opener on Monday.



WALLACE: Defensive player



PAUL: Rookie of the Year

Hornets' Paul, Pisto



ge



VINCE Carter (right) drives against Alonzo Mourning

ns' Wallace feted

Mayol doesn't deserve his Japanese manager

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad



Tour Pilipinas starts Friday

SHAKEY'S V-LEAGUE

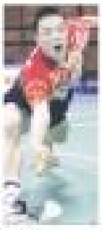
DLSU stakes spotless record



SANTOS

SPORTS

Chinese aces join RP Open



CHEN

9-ball stakes P1 million

TNT becomes La Salle team

IN HUDDLE



Bobb Cello

Granny Goose trips Montaña



RP Open organizers racing to raise fund

Abdon, Uy gain top slots



Ford slates 3 satellite finals

Traders face Landmaster

Tuason comes up big in Formula 3

ENTERTAINMENT

Fisherman's son is new Pinoy Pop Superstar

T HE SON OF A FISHERMAN from Navotas was declared the "Pinoy Pop Superstar" in the second year of the reality talent search contest of GMA 7.



Potential trouble at the top

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre



TOM Hanks



JIM Carrey



BO Bice

Village people

Bo Bice

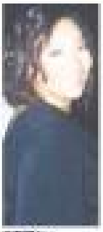
Fisherman's son is new …







HOST Regine Velasquez embraces last year's big winner Jonalyn Viray.



ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

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GALLERIA

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3 - THX	6 POSEIDON
2 POSEIDON	7 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR
3 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	8 SILENT HILL
4 POSEIDON	9 SLITHER
5 REINCARNATION	10 THE WILD

ERMITA

1 POSEIDON	
2 THE COOLER	5 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
3 SILENT HILL	6 REINCARNATION
4 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR	7 POSEIDON

METRO EAST

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	5 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	6 THE WILD
3 SLITHER	7 THE SENTINEL
4 WHEN A STRANGER CALLS	8 SILENT HILL

NOVALICHES

1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	4 SILENT HILL
2 POSEIDON	5 POSEIDON
3 SLITHER	6 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR

CITISQUARE MALABON / PIONEER

CITISQUARE MALABON	PIONEER
1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 POSEIDON	2 POSEIDON
3 RESERVE	3 REINCARNATION
4 RESERVE	4 SILENT HILL

STA. ROSA / LIPA

STA. ROSA	LIPA
1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 POSEIDON	2 POSEIDON
3 SUBMERGED	3 SLITHER
4 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR	4 TIGER BLADE
	5 SHE'S THE MAN

DASMARIÑAS / ANGELES

DASMARIÑAS	ANGELES
1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 POSEIDON	2 POSEIDON
3 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR	3 SILENT HILL
4 SUBMERGED	4 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR

IMUS / STARMILLS

IMUS	STARMILLS
1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 POSEIDON	2 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR
3 APOY SA DIBDIB NG SAMAR	3 SILENT HILL
4 SUBMERGED	4 SUBMERGED
	5 POSEIDON
	6 POSEIDON

BACOLOD / ILOILO

BACOLOD	ILOILO
1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3	1 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3
2 POSEIDON	2 POSEIDON
3 SLITHER	3 SLITHER
4 GRANDMA'S BOY	4 GRANDMA'S BOY
5 THE LAST HOLIDAY	5 APOY SA DIBDIB SA SAMAR
6 THE WILD	6 THE LAST HOLIDAY



METRO MANILA

A disappointing 'Mission'



Open book

Worldwide total

AP

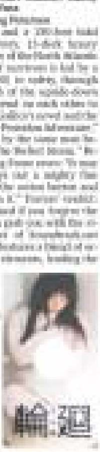
Opening Today

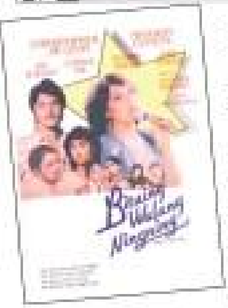
Apoy sa Dibdib ng Kaaway



Poseidon

Reincarnation





Komiks invades the small screen

Sudsy serials are crying to make a comeback on TV. Question is, will they be a hit, here and abroad?

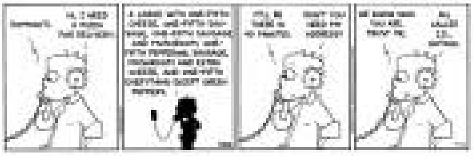


Not just nostalgia

INQUIRER TV GUIDE

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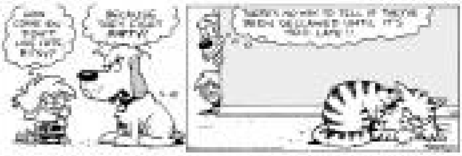
FOXTROT — BY BILL AMEND



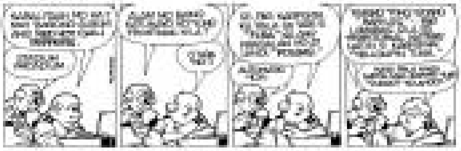
A. LIPIN — BY JESS ABRERA



MARVIN — BY TOM ARMSTRONG



PUGAD BABOY — BY PM JUNIOR

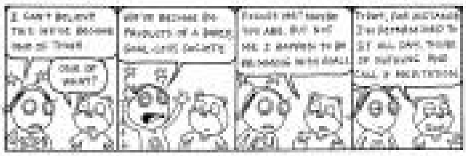


BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



MUTTS — BY PATRICK McDONNELL





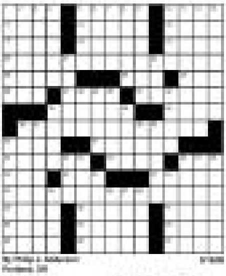
DIVINE COMEDY

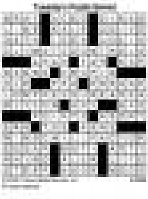


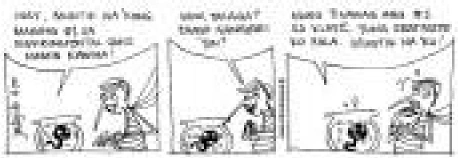
Horoscope

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

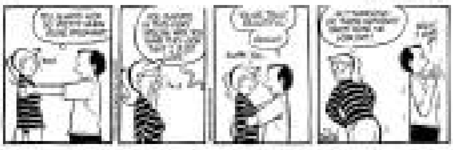
Daily Crossword



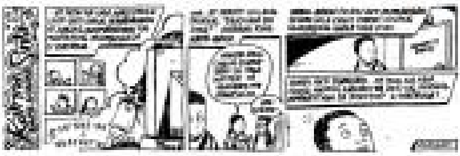




BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



EGO MACHINE — BY MANIX ABRERA



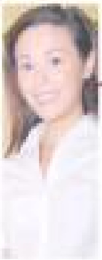
LOVENOTES — BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



TULDOK



ENTERTAINMENT

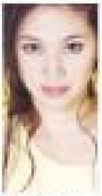
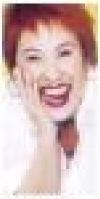

NANCY Castiglione

Nancy, are you listening?

RUSHES

False alarm

Zsazsa Zaturnnah auditions

Motivation

Rooting for Alfred



New girl in the house







WHAT'S INSIDE

Absent-minded CEO

Treasury rejects all bids for 4-year T-bonds

BUSINESS

Editor: Raul D. Marcelo • Assistant Editor: Doris E. Martinez

DOF rejects bid to cut corporate tax rate

Changes in VAT law seen to compromise gov't fiscal targets

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE HAS RULED AGAINST A proposal from the business community to immediately bring down the corporate income tax rate ... to its original level of 32 percent ...

The corporate income tax rate was increased to 35 percent last November.

The VAT law, which had a rough time ...

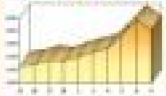
DOF B3

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

STOCK MARKET



Stocks close 1.07% lower

STOCKS B6

PLDT sweetens dividends as Q1 net slips

THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST TELECOMMUNICATIONS group yesterday decided to cheer up investors by hiking their dividend payments after it reported muted earnings growth in the first quarter.

PLDT B2

DOE postpones auction of wind power development deals

Treasury rejects all bids for 4-year T-bonds

Market misinterpreted BSP chief statement–Cruz



CRUZ

Globe readies $130-M loan for expansion

BIR SAVINGS BANK, INC.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

(Head Office and Branches)

As of March 31, 2006



Banks told to prepare for tougher US stance vs money laundering

Absent-minded CEO

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Chinatrust fires auditor

Money-go-round

PLDT sweetens . . .

From page B1

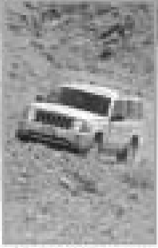
MOTORING



A Jeep for first and third world travel



IT doesn't feel like a fish out of water.



...AS it is in the rough and tumble world of SUVs.

By Tess R. Salazar

Contributor

IN LOCAL PARLANCE, HOW would one call the "beastly" image of the Jeep Commander? Matibay (durable), macho-macho (manly), mayabang (boastful), or matigas (tough), perhaps? Whatever one may call it whatever, the makers of the Jeep Commander designed this vehicle beyond the reach of the "one" SUV pretenders proliferating in the market.

[illegible]

Choice of the name

[illegible]

Product offensive

[illegible]

Classic styling

[illegible]

My Drift



Andre Palma

DUE TO SPACE LIMITATION, ANDRE Palma's column will appear next week.

Vintage cars hit the road

On the Road



Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

[illegible]



VENERABLE cars lined up for the parade: a 1946 Plymouth, 1948 MG TC roadster, 1932 Bugatti ..., 1929 Model A Ford and 1932 Lincoln.

Gov't is our No. 1 partner, Komura says

Full Tank



Al Mendoza

[illegible]

San Miguel Q1 profit up by 7% to ₱2.17B

Overseas operations provide big boost to sales

₱5B earmarked for sugar mills upgrade

Philcomsat Holdings gets new lease on life

DOF rejects bid . . .

PSE allows securities lending

Bourse issues rules, expects move to boost stocks trading

[illegible]



LIM

[illegible] *Reuters*

Fil-Estate posts sharp decline in net income

By Doris L. Lucas

[illegible]

Stocks close 2.97% lower

From page B1

[illegible] AFP

[illegible]

More investments going to Mindanao, Neda says

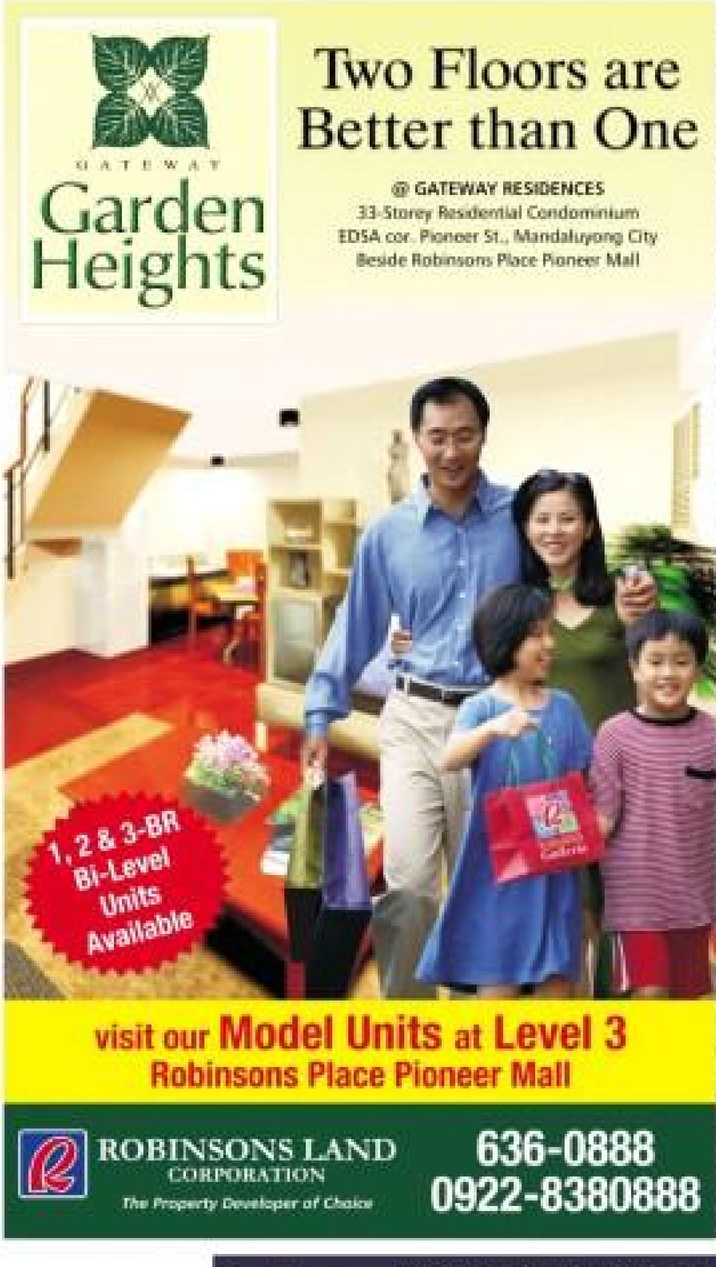
CalEnergy to turn over Leyte plant to PNOC

Agency says rise due to improving peace and order situation





Business



4-month car sales down 3%

Seaoil sets terms for ethanol plan





LIFESTYLE



Mother's Day scrapbook



DEAR MOMS,

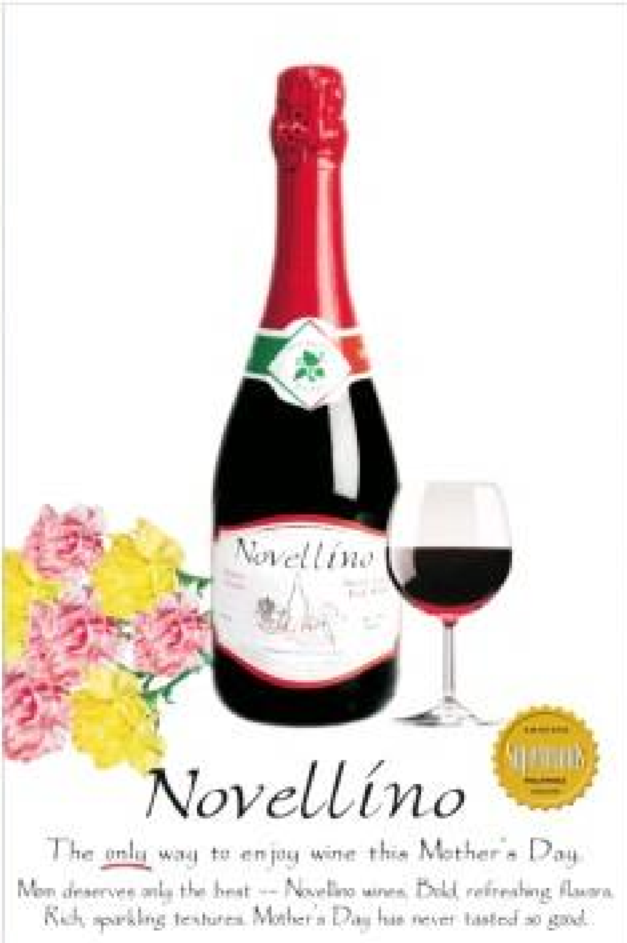
Wonder Woman







Pasasalamat



A kiss to my mom, across the miles

Always on my mind

Lessons



How to raise seven children

Clean living

Missing my mother

She was a disciplinarian and I was a spoiled brat—not a good combination



Heart attack

My guardian angel

Woman

Healing

Strongest person

Beautiful person

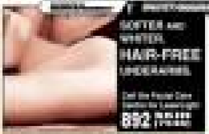




Healing

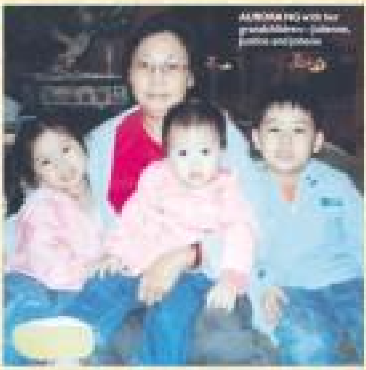
Mom's passing was bittersweet. We're grieving her loss but we're also happy because she feels no more pain

Catharsis



2bU LIFESTYLE

Mother and martyr



DEAR MOMMY,

Never alone

Psychic mom

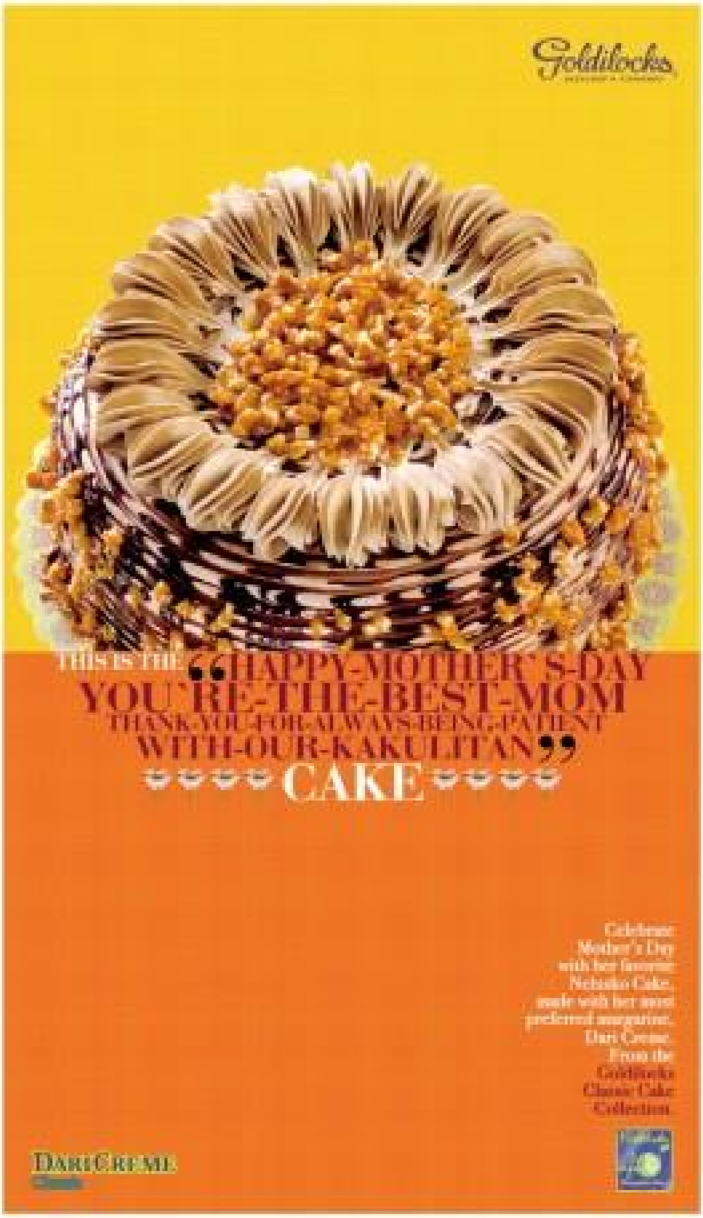


Coming-out letter on Mother's Day

The three queens



A love like no ot



From the heart



They didn't need to follow a star; they were already there, just like they've always been



Confessions of a frustrated runaway

By Cara Q.

> Running away will just prove I'm not the model daughter I've always prided myself to be.

